

Addressing
Human Trafficking
in AMERICA'S SCHOOLS

A Webinar Series by the U.S. Department of Education

Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation Webinar Series

Understanding Child Labor
Exploitation in the U.S. and
How Schools Can Help
Address It

November 15, 2023



#### NCSSLE Website: <a href="https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov">https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov</a>



School Climate Improvement Resource Package



ED School Climate Surveys



Trauma-Sensitive Schools Training Package



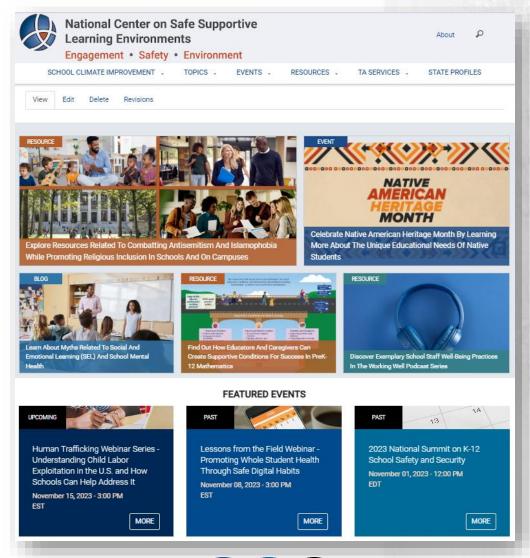
Building Student Resilience Toolkit



Human Trafficking in America's Schools

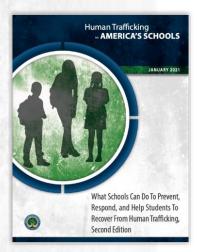


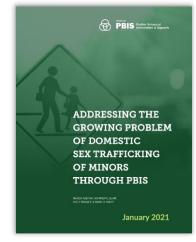
To access previous webinars in the Human Trafficking Series, go to <a href="https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/human-trafficking-webinar-series">https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/human-trafficking-webinar-series</a>.

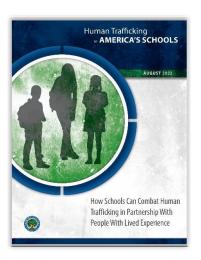




## Additional Support from the U.S. Department of Education Related to Human Trafficking











https://www.ed.gov/human-trafficking

#### Webinar Agenda

- 1) Introduction and Logistics
- 2 U.S. Department of Education Welcome
- 3) Introduction and Context Setting
- 4 Panel Discussion
- 5) Wrap Up & Closing
- 6 Live Q&A

# Welcome from the U.S. Department of Education



Bryan Williams, Director
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

#### **Meet Our Context-Setting Speakers**



Jessica Looman

Administrator, Wage and Hour Division
U.S. Department of Labor



Norma Flores López
Chair, Child Labor Coalition's Domestic Issue
Committee, Lived Experience Expert



Bridget Dutton

Program Specialist, Wage and Hour Division
U.S. Department of Labor

Bios for the speakers are archived at the following location:

https://safesupportivelearn
ing.ed.gov/events/webinar
/human-traffickingwebinar-seriesunderstanding-child-laborexploitation-us-and-how

# Welcome from the U.S. Department of Labor



Jessica Looman, Administrator

Wage and Hour Division
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, DC

## Lived Experience Context



Norma Flores López

**Chair, Child Labor Coalition's Domestic Issue Committee, Lived Experience Expert** 

## Understanding Child Labor Exploitation



Bridget Dutton, Program Specialist
Wage and Hour Division
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, DC



## Child Labor Exploitation

How to Comply with Federal Labor Laws





#### **Disclaimer**

This presentation is intended as general information only and does not carry the force of legal opinion.

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#### **Presentation Topics**

- Child labor protections by age
- Hours 14- and 15-year-olds can work
- Jobs 14- and 15-year-olds can work
- Dangerous jobs prohibited for all children under 18
- Child labor protections on farms
- Additional resources

#### Child Labor Protections by Age (Nonagricultural)

- Under 14—Limited to work that is exempt from the FLSA such as delivering newspapers to the consumer, acting, or casual baby-sitting.
- 14 and 15—May only work outside school hours for a limited number of hours per day and per week; restrictions on type of work; any work not specifically permitted is prohibited.
- 16 and 17—May be employed for unlimited hours, but may NOT work in dangerous jobs.
- 18—No longer subject to Federal Child Labor Laws.

Note: Different standards apply to farm work. See slides 28-29.

#### Nonagricultural Jobs for 14- and 15-year-olds

#### Work a 14- and 15-year-old generally **CAN** do:

- Most Retail Jobs—Cashier, Stocking and Advertising
- Some Food Service Work—Server/Busser, Dishwasher
- Creative Work—Singing, Artwork, Playing an instrument
- Intellectual Work—Teaching, Tutoring, Computer Programming
- Certified 15-year-olds may work as lifeguards at swimming pools and amusement parks.

#### Any work not specifically permitted, is prohibited.

#### Hours 14- and 15-year-olds Can Work (Nonagricultural)

14- and 15- year-olds **can only work outside of school hours** and may *not* work:

- More than 3 hours on a school day, including Friday.
- More than 18 hours per week when school is in session.
- More than 8 hours per day when school is not in session.
- More than 40 hours per week when school is not in session.
- Before 7:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. on any day, except from June 1 through Labor Day, when nighttime work hours are extended to 9:00 p.m.



#### Dangerous Jobs—No children under 18

- Explosives
- Exposure to radioactive materials
- Mining (including coal)
- Forestry
- Meat processing
- Woodworking machines
- Metal working & shearing
- Bakery machines

- Lifting equipment (including forklift)
- Saws
- Driving
- Balers and compactors
- Demolition
- Roofing
- Excavation
- Bricks and tiles

### **Explosives and Radioactive Material**

#### Children <u>cannot</u> work where:

- Explosives are manufactured or stored
- They are exposed to radioactive materials



#### **Mining and Forestry Jobs**

Children cannot work most jobs in:

- Mining, including coal mining
- Forest fire fighting, forest fire prevention;
   forestry services; logging; and sawmills



#### **Meat Processing**

#### Children <u>cannot</u>:

- Use or clean power-driven meatprocessing machines, like meat slicers, saws, and meat choppers
- Work most jobs in meat and poultry slaughtering, processing, rendering, and packing establishments



#### Power-Driven Machines—Bakery, Wood, and Metal

Children cannot use, set up, or clean:

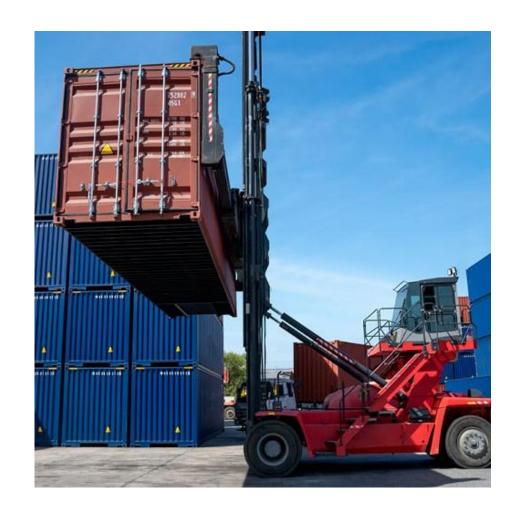
- Power-driven bakery machines, such as vertical dough mixers
- Power-driven woodworking machines, like circular saws, chain saws, nailing machines, and sanders
- Power-driven metal- working machines including metal-forming, punching and shearing machines



#### Lifting Equipment

#### Children <u>cannot</u>:

 Operate or ride on a power-driven hoisting apparatus (lifting equipment), like forklifts, non- automatic elevators, skid-steers loaders, backhoes, manlifts, scissor lifts, cherry pickers, work- assist platforms, boom trucks, or cranes



#### Saws

#### Children <u>cannot</u>:

- Operate power-driven circular saws, band saws, guillotine shears, chain saws, reciprocating saws, woodchippers, and abrasive cutting discs
- Work as a helper on the above types of power-driven equipment, no matter what kind of items are being cut by the equipment



#### **Driving**

#### Children cannot:

 Drive motor vehicles or work outside the vehicle as a driver's helper to assist with tasks such as loading, unloading, or securing cargo

Note: Seventeen-year-olds can drive cars or small trucks during daylight hours for limited times and under strictly limited circumstances.



#### **Compactors and Balers**

#### Children cannot:

 Use balers, compactors, and power-driven paper-products machines

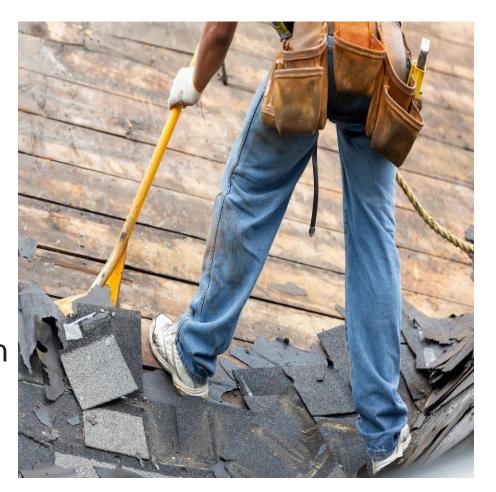
Note: 16- and 17-year-olds can load (but cannot operate or unload) certain scrap paper balers and paper box compactors under very specific guidelines.



#### Demolition, Roofing, and Excavation

#### Children <u>cannot</u>:

- Be employed in wrecking and demolition work
- Be employed in roofing operations including work performed on the ground, removal of the old roof, and all work on or about a roof
- Work most jobs in trenching and excavation work, including working in a trench more than four feet deep
- Work most jobs in the manufacture of brick, tile, and similar products





#### **Child Labor–Farm Jobs**

- 16 and above may work in any farm job at any time.
- 14 and 15 may work many farm jobs outside school hours, but may NOT work in dangerous jobs.
- 12 and 13 may work many farm jobs outside of school hours, but may NOT work in dangerous jobs and must work with or have written consent from a parent.
- Under 12 years of age may work many farm jobs outside of school hours but may NOT work in dangerous jobs and may only work on farms where none of the employees are subject to the FLSA.

#### Jobs Children under 16-years-old CAN Do on Farms

- Operate garden type tractors.
- Work with beef range bulls and cattle, dairy cattle, or breeding stock on the range.
- Work with timber up to 6" in diameter, including most fence posts and tier poles.
- Use ladders to reach a worksite above 20'; not from a ladder or scaffold.
- Drive a truck or automobile on the farm (w/out passengers).
- Harvest most crops.

#### Dangerous Farm Jobs-No Children under 16

#### Children <u>cannot</u>:

- Operate a large tractor, trencher, earth moving equipment, forklift or other farm machines
- Drive a bus, truck or automobile to transport passengers, or ride on a tractor as a passenger or helper



#### Dangerous Farm Jobs-No Children under 16

#### Children cannot:

- Work in felling, buckling, skidding, loading, or unloading timber
- Work from a ladder or scaffold at a height of over 20 feet



#### Dangerous Farm Jobs-No Children under 16

#### Children cannot:

- Work inside a fruit, forage, or grain storage/silo that is designed to keep out oxygen
- Work in a yard, pen, or stall occupied by a bull, boar, or stud horse



#### Wage and Hour Division

### What we do:

- Enforcement
- Outreach and Education
- Compliance Assistance



#### **Complaint-Initiated Enforcement**

- Complaints can be submitted by phone.
- Complaints can come from third parties.
- Complaints are confidential.
- WHD does not ask workers about their immigration status.
- No fee to file a complaint.

1-866-4US-WAGE (487-9243) or visit <a href="https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd">www.dol.gov/agencies/whd</a>



#### Who May File a Child Labor Complaint?

- Workers
- Parent/Guardian
- School Officials
- Other Employers
- Advocacy Groups
- Other Agencies



#### **Helpful Complaint Intake Information**

#### Employee's name

- Contact information
- Address and phone number
- Employee's duties/work
- Circumstances or actions that caused potential violation of the law
- Copies of pay stubs or personal hours worked records if available

#### **Employer's name**

- Point of contact
- Address and phone number

This information is not required but helps develop the case.

## Wage and Hour Investigation Process

#### **Investigation Process**





#### **Initial Conference**

Our investigator holds an initial conference with the employer and/or the employer's representative and tours the employer's establishment.





#### **Conducting Interviews**

Our investigator interviews employees in private.





#### **Reviewing Records**

The WHD investigator reviews the employer's records to determine compliance.





#### **Final Conference**

We hold a final conference with the employer and/or the employer's representative to discuss any violations found and how to correct them. If back wages are owed to employees, the investigator will request payment of back wages.

# WHD's Role in Detecting and Referring Indicators of Human Trafficking



#### WHD's Role

- Prevention of labor trafficking by addressing labor exploitation and collaborating with Human Trafficking Task Forces
- Detection of trafficking indicators during its civil enforcement
- Referrals to criminal and civil law enforcement partners upon detection where appropriate
- Protection of trafficking survivors by assisting with the computation of restitution and leveraging any remedies available under the laws we enforce

#### **MOUs and Partnerships**



Foreign Consulates



Business Associations



Worker Rights Organizations



Federal & State Agencies

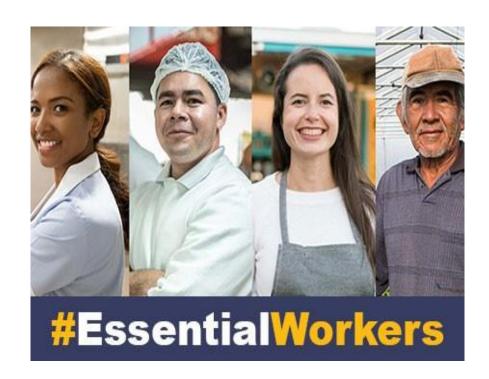


**Advocacy Groups** 



Community-Based Organizations

#### **Outreach and Education**



- Education and outreach for workers to understand and exercise their rights.
- Education and outreach for employers to increase compliance.

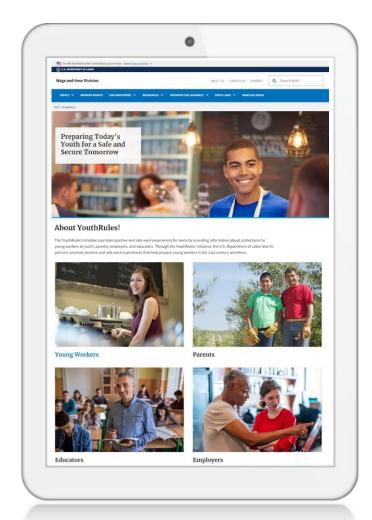
## **Child Labor Websites**

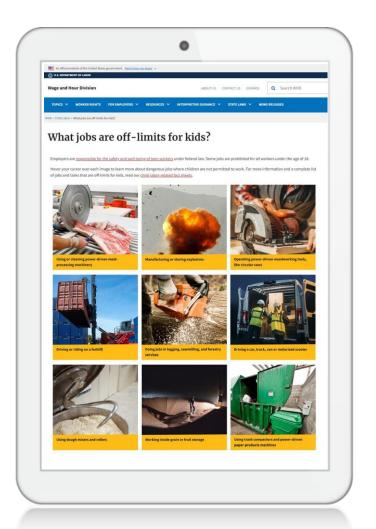
YouthRules.gov



Jobs that are off-limits for kids







## **Child Labor Partners**

Southeast	Northeast	Southwest	West
Boston, MA Multiple school districts in MA on the Youth Employment Safety Program	Nashville, TN Tennessee High School Association	Oklahoma City, OK Oklahoma City Public Schools	Los Angeles, CA Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia, PA Lehigh Career & Technical Institute (LCTI), and the PA OSHA Consultation Program with the Indiana University of PA	Louisville, KY Kentucky Department of Education	New Orleans, LA Louisiana Teaching English as a Second Language Association (LATESOL)	San Diego, CA San Diego Unified School District



## Field Examples-Coweta County School System

Partners include the Atlanta DO has established a relationship with Work-Based Learning Director for the Central Education Center (CEC) for Coweta County Schools. The CEC is a unique partnership, a "joint venture" among business and industry in the Coweta County School System, and West Georgia Technical College.

**Goals of the Partnership include** providing child labor guidance to the work-based learning program, the schools posted WHD child labor posters and resources within the district. Because of this relationship, Atlanta DO will provide child labor information during upcoming sessions at the annual State of Georgia WBL Conference on Nov. 15- 17, 2023.



## Conclusion



#### **Meet Our Panelists**



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Norma Flores López
Chair, Child Labor Coalition's Domestic Issue Committee,
Lived Experience Expert



Mark Whitlock
Chief Executive Officer
Central Educational Center (CEC), GA



Ashley Allen Feliciano
Assistant District Director, Southeast Regional Initiative
Team Lead for Child Labor, U.S. Department of Labor



Sirena Bazile-Cox Senior Advisor, Office of Policy, U.S. Department of Labor

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## Closing and Upcoming Events

**December 6:** Free to Learn Miniseries—Creating a Welcoming Environment

**December 13:** Free to Learn Miniseries—Supporting Full Student Participation

January 31, 2024: Reporting Human Trafficking— Educating and Supporting Students

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## Thank you!

Need Help? Reach out to NCSSLE at NCSSLE@air.org.

Event Webpage:

https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/hum an-trafficking-webinar-series-understanding-child-laborexploitation-us-and-how

Webinar Series:

https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/human-trafficking-webinar-series

ED's Human Trafficking Webpage: <a href="https://www.ed.gov/human-trafficking">https://www.ed.gov/human-trafficking</a>

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https://www.surveymonkey.co m/r/HTWebinar16

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Live Q&A